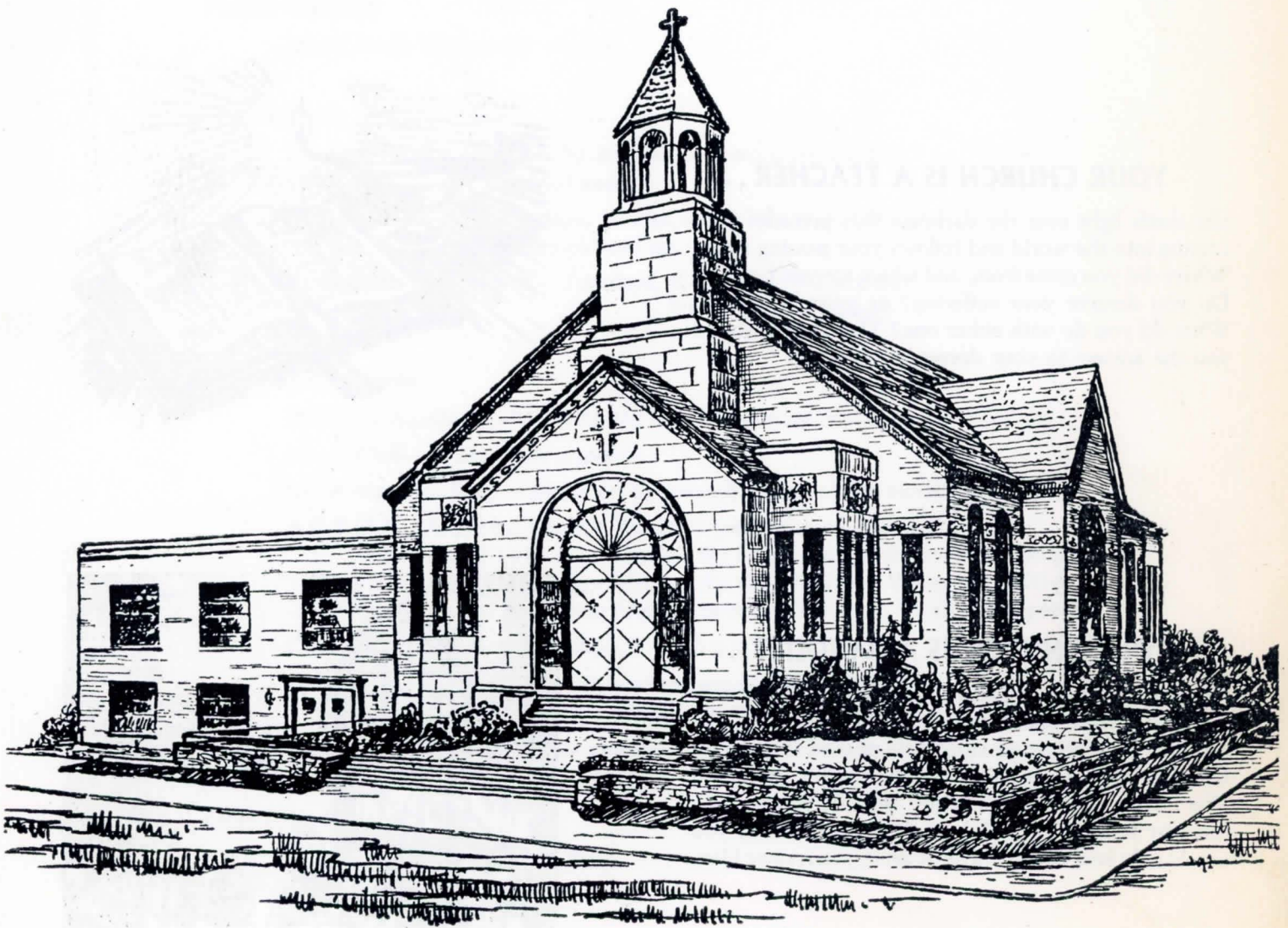


*What does the*  
**Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs**  
*mean to you?*



## YOUR CHURCH IS A ROAD . . .

You walk on that road up to God. Perhaps in a moment of stress you asked yourself the question, What do I want most of all? and perhaps you were confused. The Church, with her two thousand years of wisdom, has the answer. You want peace in your soul and that means victory over fear. The Maker of heaven and earth Who takes loving care of His creations will give you that peace. You find God everywhere, but particularly in the Church.



## YOUR CHURCH IS A TEACHER . . .

She sheds light over the darkness that precedes your coming into the world and follows your passing away. Where did you come from, and where are you headed? Do you deserve your suffering? or your happiness? What do you do with either one? The Church shows you the answer to your deepest problems.



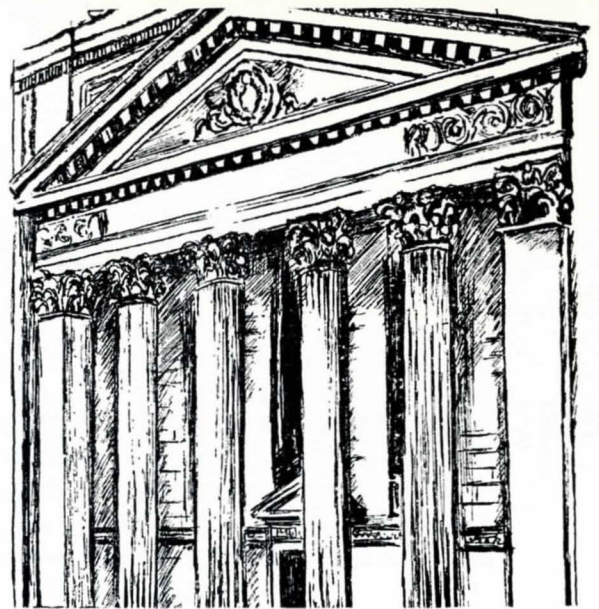
## YOUR CHURCH IS A BANQUET . . .

The Divine Liturgy or Badarak celebrated in the Church is a Feast. More than pleasant, melodious singing, the Badarak is participation in the Life of God. To receive Communion is to receive nourishment for the spirit. The Divine Liturgy is "Divine" because it was instituted by Jesus Christ. Without the Divine Liturgy you would only *hear* about Christ. With it, you *receive* Him.



## **YOUR CHURCH IS A BANK . . .**

Where not money, but the values of your people's tradition are kept. The values of our Armenian tradition do not just sit in the Armenian Church. They grow and produce dividends. In and with our Church we grow richer spiritually and culturally. Our children learn there what they cannot learn anywhere else: the faith of the Armenian Church and the principles of a good, clean life.



## **YOUR CHURCH IS A TREE . . .**

The weary traveler (i.e. anyone who is struggling for a better future) will find a refreshing breeze in her shade; her fruits satisfy and quench the hunger and thirst of men for the needs of the soul; on her branches our children play and sing in a wholesome atmosphere.



## **YOUR CHURCH IS A FIRESIDE . . .**

Where you continue your old friendships and meet new friends in a spirit of fellowship; where you express your ideas and hear the ideas of others about matters of interest to you and to them.



## **YOUR CHURCH IS A FORUM . . .**

Where our young men and women increase their knowledge and sharpen their wits; where the members of the ACYOA, and Mr. and Mrs. Auxiliary, and of other such organizations discuss their problems and come to their own conclusions; where they can prepare themselves to be future leaders.



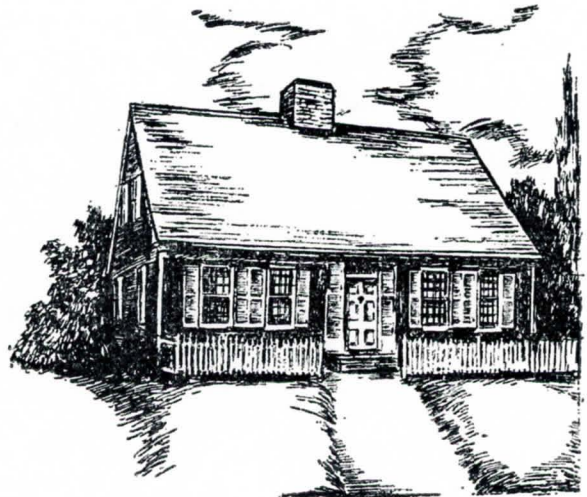
## **YOUR CHURCH IS A GYMNASIUM . . .**

Mainly for the spirit which will exercise and keep itself alert and receptive to the truth of God — but fun is not neglected. Sports, scouting, outings and other such activities are part of the program.



## **YOUR CHURCH IS A HOME . . .**

Where, no matter what your age, you can grow up and become wiser still, in many ways. The church is our home where our children will learn the language and history of our forefathers. More than a home, our church is, in fact, a county in the Kingdom of God.



## HISTORICAL SKETCH OF OUR CHURCH

The Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs was born of a deep inner compulsion on the part of the many Armenians living on Long Island for a place where they could worship God as their ancestors have worshipped throughout the centuries and where old and young could gather to keep alive the rich Armenian spiritual and cultural heritage.

In 1953, enthusiasm was created, meetings were held, plans were prepared, and preliminary pledges were made to "start the ball rolling" for our new church building.

Permission was requested from the Prelacy to proceed with the plans, and in April 1954 a building committee was formed. The purchase of our present property, now totaling 32,000 square feet including the area of the present parish house, was soon effected and from the several sketches our architect Manoug Exerjian submitted, the Building Committee selected the one which was used for today's building.

The first Inaugural Dinner of September 26, 1954 opened our fund-raising campaign. On April 17, 1955, the ground-breaking ceremony took place with the Very Rev. Torkom Vartabed Manoogian officiating. Father Torkom was the priest-in-charge of our parish during the early days, until we were able to have our own pastor.

On September 25, 1955, after a successful campaign dinner which netted \$40,000 in pledges, the cornerstone-laying ceremony took place.

On November 9, 1955, the Building Committee unanimously accepted the appointment of our Primate to have the Rev. Father Vartan Megherian as the Pastor of our church.

In January 1956 the Building Committee was appointed as the Parish Council, and in September of the same year, delegates to our Annual Diocesan Assembly were elected from among us members of the church.

On December 16, 1956, the church was opened and the first Divine Liturgy was celebrated. At this time the Sunday School, which had begun classes at the YMCA, moved into its rooms, and the other parish organizations began to take form in the subsequent months.

On February 17, 1957, the Parish Assembly met to elect Parish Council members for the first time, and elections were held every year thereafter.

In these formative years, the Parish Council brought about the completion of the church building and addition of the altars, baptismal font, chandeliers, carpeting, chancel railing, altar paintings, stained glass windows, memorial plaques, and other furnishings for the church.

The Women's Auxiliary, Men's Club, Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary, ACYOA, Choir, Sunday School, Armenian School, and Cub Scouts increased in quality and in numbers, and the membership of our church mounted. Also, the Pledge System was instituted in June 1958.

On September 28, 1958, the Consecration of our church was held, and a book was published as a memento of the occasion.

The Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs now administers to the spiritual needs of over 1,000 families. Her doors are open to all persons to worship, and to benefit from learning and enjoyment within her walls.

## TO ACQUAINT YOU WITH OUR PARISH ACTIVITIES . . .

### Church Services

Divine Liturgy – Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Lenten Vespers – Every Wednesday evening of Lent, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday Evening Service in English for the youth, 8:30 p.m.

### Parish Assembly

Meets once a year in two sessions, to elect the Nominating Committee and the Parish Council members.

Special Parish Assemblies and various committees as needed.

### Parish Council

Meets every Wednesday evening.

### Our Schools

Sunday School – Sundays, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon for children  
4 years old and up.

Armenian School – Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children  
6 years old and up.

Adult Armenian Classes – Tuesdays, 8 to 9 p.m. – Language  
9 to 10 p.m. – Lecture

### Our Organizations

Women's Auxiliary – Meets on the last Wednesday of the month, 1:00 p.m.

Men's Club – Meets once a month.

Mr. & Mrs. Auxiliary – Meets on the second Friday of the month, 8:30 p.m.

A.C.Y.O.A. (Armenian Church Youth Organization of America)

Juniors (Ages 14 to 17) – Meet on the first Friday of the month, 8:00 p.m.

Seniors (Age 18 and up) – Meet on the third Friday of the month, 8:00 p.m.

Fellowship and Recreation Night – Sundays, 7:30 p.m. for all young people.

Church Choir – Meets Tuesdays, 8 to 10 p.m.

Cub Scouts, Pack #443 – Den Meetings on Mondays, 3:45 p.m.

Pack Meetings on third Sunday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

*All organizations meet in the church auditorium or rectory building classrooms.*

### Our Telephones

Church Office – BAyside 5-0235

Lobby – BAyside 9-9942